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P R 231627Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2144

SECDEF WASHDC PRORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 VIENNA 2594

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS: AD HOC GROUP MEETING, 22 MARCH 1974

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE 22 MARCH AD HOC GROUP MEETING
ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS: BILATERALS,
PRESS MATTERS, THE MBFR REPORT TO BE GIVEN TO THE
NAC ON 5 APRIL, THE DRAFT OUTLINE FOR THE 28 MARCH
WESTERN PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES,
THE PROCEDURES FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF MULTILATERAL
INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, A REVIEW OF THE 21 MARCH
EASTERN PLENARY STATEMENT, AND THE TALKING
POINTS TO BE USED BY WESTERN REPS IN THE 25 MARCH
MULTILATERAL INFORMAL MEETING. IN THE BILATERALS,
THE UK REP REPORTED THAT THE SOVIETS HAD EXPRESSED
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A WILLINGNESS TO ENGAGE IN DETAILED DATA EXCHANGES

BUT ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROTOCOL WHICH WOULD BE PART OF AN MBFR AGREEMENT. IN DISCUSSION OF THE 5 APRIL MBFR REPORT TO THE NAC, THE GROUP AGREED THAT THE REPORT SHOULD CONTAIN A REVIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE AS WELL AS A LISTING OF THE ISSUES ON WHICH FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS AND NAC WILL BE NEEDED. THE REPORT WILL NOT CONTAIN JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC GROUP IN VIEW OF THE DESIRE OF SOME REPS TO USE THE EASTER RECESS AS A PERIOD TO CONSULT WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS ON THE ISSUES LISTED AND TO DEVELOP POSITIONS ON THEM. END SUMMARY.

BILATERALS

1. THE BELGIAN DEPREP(WILLOT) REPORTED ON A MEETING HE HELD ON 21 MARCH WITH THE ROMANIAN REP. THE ROMANIAN SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED WESTERN EFFORTS TO KEEP HIS COUNTRY INFORMED ABOUT THE PROGRESS OF THE INFORMAL SESSIONS NOW TAKING PLACE BECAUSE IT IS NOT KEPT UP-TO-DATE ADEQUATELY BY THE SOVIETS SAID RUMORS WERE CIRCULATING AMONG EASTERN DELS THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE APPROACHING A BREAK-THROUGH, NAMELY AGREEMENT ON FIRST PHASE REDUCTIONS OF US-USSR GROUND FORCES. THE ROMANIAN REP INQUIRED AS TO WESTERN REACTIONS TO SOVIET INSISTENCE THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE INCLUDED IN FIRST STAGE SYMBOLIC REDUCTIONS. THE ROMANIAN REP STATED THAT HE HAD NOT LEAKED INFORMATION TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE CURRENT INFORMAL SESSIONS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF HE WERE ASKED BY NEWSMEN FOR HIS ASSESSMENT OF THE INFORMAL SESSIONS, HE WOULD GIVE A NEGATIVE ONE.

2. THE FRG REP REPORTED THAT THE HEAD OF THE VIENNA OFFICE OF THE GERMAN PRESS AGENCY TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY A JUNIOR MEMBER OF THE GDR DEL AT A RECENT RECEPTION FOR THE PRESS GIVEN BY THE SOVIET DELEGATION. THE GDR REP TOLD THE NEWSMAN THAT HE SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THE FACT THAT IN THE CURRENT INFORMAL SESSIONS, WESTERN PARTICIPANTS
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WERE ADDRESSING THE QUESTION OF REDUCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. THE UK DEP REP REPORTED ON A MEETING HE HAD WITH SOVIET REP KUTOVOI AND SOBOLEV ON MARCH 20. IN THEIR DISCUSSION, THE UK DEPREP STATED HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIETS' IDEA OF A SYMBOLIC REDUCTION WAS BECOMING MORE AND MORE SYMBOLIC AS

TIME WENT ON, THAT IS, IT WAS THE UK IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIETS WERE MORE INTERESTED IN FREEZING CURRENT FORCE LEVELS THAN IN ACTUALLY REDUCING FORCES. THE SOVIET REP DID NOT REPLY IN A MEANINGFUL WAY, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT IF THE WEST HAD PROPOSALS TO MAKE ON FORCE FREEZES, THE EASTERN PARTICIPANTS WOULD WELCOME THEM. WHEN PRESSED WHETHER THE SOVIETS WOULD BE WILLING TO ENGAGE IN DATA EXCHANGE, FOR EXAMPLE ON THE UNITS, TROOPS, AND EQUIPMENT WITHDRAWN FROM THE AREA, THE SOVIET REPS SAID THAT THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN DRAFTING A PROTOCOL AS FORESEEN IN ARTICLE II OF THE 8 NOVEMBER SOVIET PROPOSAL. THE SOVIET REPS STATED THAT IN DRAFTING THIS PROTOCOL, EAST-WEST AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE REACHED ON EXPLICIT NUMBERS TO SERVE AS STARTING POINT FOR REDUCTIONS AND TO IDENTIFY POST-REDUCTION LEVELS. BUT THEY CLAIMED THAT THE TIME HAD NOT COME FOR SUCH DETAILED DISCUSSIONS BECAUSE THE WEST HAD NOT SHOWN A POLITICAL WILL TO AGREE TO REDUCTIONS.

PRESS

4. THE UK REP ADDRESSED PRESS REPORTS OF A STATEMENT ON MBFR MADE BY VICE PRESIDENT FORD. THE UK REP STATED THAT IF ASKED BY THE PRESS WHETHER THE ALLIES WERE IN FACT FAILING TO COOPERATE WITH THE US IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, HE WOULD STRESS THE FULL COHESION OF THE ALLIED AD HOC GROUP AND COOPERATIVENESS DISPLAYED BY ALL ITS MEMBERS. HE URGED OTHER MEMBERS TO TAKE A SIMILAR LINE.

REPORT TO NATO

5. THE UK REP ASKED THE GROUP TO ADDRESS THE REQUEST OF THE NAC FOR A WRITTEN AD HOC GROUP ASSESS-
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MENT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH SOME PERMREPS HAD REQUESTED SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO THE NAC A DAY OR TWO BEFORE THE SCHEDULED 5 APRIL BRIEFING OF THE NAC BY ALLIED MBFR REPS. THE CANADIAN REP OPENED THE DISCUSSION BY STATING HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT THE NAC HAD A DEFINITE NEED TO RECEIVE AD HOC GROUP VIEWS IN GOOD TIME WHENEVER THE AD HOC GROUP CONSIDERED THAT THERE IS A REQUIREMENT FOR INTRODUCING NEW ELEMENTS INTO THE WESTERN PROPOSAL. IN ACCORD WITH THIS PRINCIPLE, HE SAID CANADA WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AD HOC GROUP IDENTIFY THOSE ISSUES ON WHICH NEW GUIDANCE APPEARS TO BE NEEDED AND ASSIGN SOME PRIORITY TO THE REQUIREMENTS. THE CANADIAN REP STATED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT SUCH AN ASSESSMENT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE NAC, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS

NO NEED TO ATTACH AD HOC GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS ON

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; FROM US REP MBFR

THE COURSE OF ACTION TO BE PURSUED. HE STATED THAT THE AD HOC GROUP SHOULD ATTEMPT TO RETAIN AS MUCH FLEXIBILITY AS IT COULD WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF ITS EXISTING GUIDANCE. FURTHER, HE SAW NO NEED FOR OBTAINING A CHANGE IN SUCH GUIDANCE UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE SOVIETS WERE TO MAKE MAJOR UNFORESEEN CONCESSIONS IN THE COURSE OF THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. IN SHORT, HE SAID IT WAS CANADA'S VIEW THAT THE AD HOC GROUP SHOULD SUBMIT TO THE NAC ITS VIEWS ON THE PRIORITY AND TIMING OF ITS FUTURE REQUIREMENTS IN TERMS OF GUIDANCE.

6. THE CANADIAN REP THEN LISTED THREE AREAS IN WHICH HE THOUGHT FURTHER GUIDANCE COULD EVENTUALLY BE NEEDED: (1) THE MATERIAL COVERED BY PARS 29 AND 30 OF CM(73) 83 (FINAL). THIS COVERED THE ISSUES OF STABILIZING MEASURES, FLANK SECURITY,

THE STATUS OF HUNGARY AND NON-CIRCUMVENTION MEASURES. HE SAID
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THE PROGRESS OF THE TALKS TO DATE SHOULD INDICATE TO THE EASTERN SIDE THAT NATO'S INTEREST IS LIMITED TO OBTAINING A NON-CIRCUMVENTION AGREEMENT WHICH CAN BE APPLIED TO SOVIET FORCES IN HUNGARY. ALSO, THE WEST HAD AGREED THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE OBTAINING EASTERN AGREEMENT ON A COMMON CEILING CONCEPT. HE STATED THAT MORE AND MORE THE WEST WAS USING THE FIGURE OF 700,000 IN CONNECTION WITH THAT COMMON CEILING CONCEPT. CONSEQUENTLY, NATO SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER IT ACTUALLY WANTED TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE COMMON CEILING SET AT THE LEVEL OF 700,000 AND POSE THIS AS A NEGOTIATING REQUIREMENT. (2) AREAS IN WHICH THE CURRENT NATO POSITION NEEDED TO BE SUPPLEMENTED. IN THIS CONNECTION ONE COULD LIST VERIFICATION; THE LINKAGE ISSUE AND THE PROBLEM OF DEFINING A FIXED PERIOD OF TIME; THE QUESTION OF GLOBAL CEILINGS, AND LIMITATIONS ON THE RE-ENTRY OF US AND SOVIET FORCES INTO THE REDUCTION AREA; THE DURATION OF A GLOBAL CEILING, AND THE INCLUSION OF AIR FORCES. THIRD WERE THOSE ELEMENTS OF A PHASE II AGREEMENT WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE COURSE OF THE PHASE I NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION THERE WERE THE QUESTIONS OF WHICH MEMBERS OF THE WARSAW PACT SHOULD REDUCE THEIR FORCES IN PHASE II, WHETHER IT SHOULD BE LEFT UP TO THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES AS TO WHETHER SOVIET FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED IN PHASE II, WHICH NATO STATES SHOULD REDUCE THEIR FORCES IN PHASE II, THE SCALE OF THE REDUCTIONS IN PHASE II, AND THE REDUCTION OF EQUIPMENT IN PHASE II.

7. THE CANADIAN REP SUMMARIZED BY SAYING THAT IT MIGHT BE PREMATURE TO RAISE SOME OF THE ISSUES WHICH HE HAD JUST LISTED. HOWEVER, IT WAS CLEAR TO HIM THAT THE NAC WANTED TO HEAR AD HOC GROUP VIEWS ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS UP TO THE AD HOC GROUP TO DECIDE WHETHER IT BELIEVED IT PROPER TO ADDRESS THIS KIND OF ISSUE AT THIS TIME.

8. THE FRG REP COMMENTED THAT THE CANADIAN REP HAD MADE A VERY USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, HE DOUBTED THAT THE AHG WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE NAC WITH RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ISSUES OUTLINED IN TIME FOR THE 5 APRIL BRIEFING. IN FACT, HE BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED WOULD WANT TO TUSE THE EASTER RECESS FOR REVIEWING THE STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. CONSEQUENTLY, IN ITS REPORT TO THE NAC EHT AHG WOULD DO BEST BY SIMPLY IDENTIFYING ISSUES RATHER THAN TABLING
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A SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS. HE ALSO QUESTIONED THE FEASIBILITY OF GIVING TO THE NAC A REPORT TWO DAYS BEFORE THAT REPORT WAS TO BE CONSIDERED. HE SAID SUCH AN ACTION COULD RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL DEBATE WITHIN THE NAC WHICH WOULD BE ON AN UNINSTRUCTED BASIS AND WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF AHG REPS.

9. THE CANADIAN REP AGREED WITH THE FRG REP IN SAYING THAT IT WAS IMPRACTICAL FOR THE REPORT TO BE SENT TO THE NAC PRIOR TO THE 5 APRIL BRIEFING BY AHG REPS. HE ALSO AGREED WITH THE FRG REP THAT THIS REPORT SHOULD IDENTIFY ISSUES RATHER THAN MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS. HE REALIZED THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR THIS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE RECESS. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR THE VIEWS OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AHG ON THIS QUESTION BECAUSE HE BELIEVED IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE AHG TO SEND SUCH RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NAC SOME TIME AFTER THE EASTER RECESS.

10. THE NETHERLANDS REP SAID THAT THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL WAS QUITE USEFUL. HOWEVER, IN HIS VIEW THE 5 APRIL REPORT TO THE NAC SHOULD BE DEFINED INTO TWO PARTS: (1) A REVIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH ADDRESSES THE AREAS OF COMMON GROUND BETWEEN BOTH SIDES AND THE AREAS OF SUBSTANTIAL DISAGREEMENT, SUCH AS THE SOVIET SYMBOLIC REDUCTION PROPOSAL; (2) A STATEMENT OF MAJOR ISSUES WHICH WOULD OUTLINE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDANCE. IN THIS LATTER SECTION THERE WOULD BE NO NEED FOR ASSIGNING PRIORITIES TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDANCE. IT WOULD BE UP TO AHG MEMBERS TO DECIDE ON THE TACTICS OF WHEN TO USE WHATEVER GUIDANCE WAS AVAILABLE TO ITM WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUES WHICH WERE RAISED BY THE CANADIAN REP. THE NETHERLANDS REP STATED THAT HE WISHED TO PUT ON RECORD HIS VIEW THAT THE CONCEPT OF A GLOBAL CEILING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED NOT ONLY FOR APPLICATION TO GROUND FORCES BUT TO ALL FORCES AND ALSO, THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING IT TEMPORARY SHOULD BE ADDRESSED. HOWEVER, HE AGREED THAT THE 5 APRIL AHG REPORT TO THE NAC SHOULD NOT INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS.

11. THE GREEK REP POINTED OUT THAT IN THE 5 APRIL REPORT TO THE NAC MENTION SHOULD BE MADE OF THE FACT THAT THE FLANK ISSUE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN PLENARY AND INFORMAL MEETINGS AND THAT THE TIME MAY HAVE COME FOR ADDRESSING IT IN A MORE CONCRETE WAY.

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12 THE BELGIAN DEP REP STATED THAT ON THE QUESTION OF PROCEDURES, HE THOUGHT THE AHG MEMBERS SHOULD COMPLY WITH THE WISH OF THE NAC BY SENDING ITS REPORT TO BRUSSELS SOME TIME BEFORE THE 5 APRIL BRIEFING. ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE REPORT HE AGREED THAT IT SHOULD INCLUDE A REVIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG WITH A COMMENTARY ON THAT REVIEW. HE ALSO AGREED THAT

ISSUES SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED AND REQUIREMENTS FOR GUIDANCE SHOULD BE OUTLINED. HE DIFFERED WITH THE CANADIAN REP, HOWEVER, BY SAYING THAT THE AHG SHOULD NOT DEVELOP A LIST OF ISSUES BUT RATHER STATE ITS CASE IN A MORE NARRATIVE FORMAT.

HE WAS CONCERNED HE SAID THAT THE WORKING BODIES IN NATO MIGHT NOT APPRECIATE AN AHG REPORT WHICH IMPLIED THAT THEY WERE NOT DOING THEIR WORK QUICKLY ENOUGH. THE

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS FROM US REP MBFR

CANADIAN REP REPLIED THAT HIS LISTING OF ISSUES WAS NOT MEANT TO BE AN EXCLUSIVE ONE. FURTHERMORE HE REMINDED THE BELGIAN DEPREP THAT THE NAC DID EXPLICITLY ASK THE AHG TO INFORM IT WHEN THE AHG BELIEVED IT REQUIRED FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS ON VERIFICATION. I WAS HIS VIEW THAT THIS FACT INDICATED THAT NATO WAS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS AS

REGARDS ITS FURTHER WORK PROGRAM ON MBFR.

13. THE UK REP SAID THAT THE AD HOC GROUP COULD NOT TRANSMIT ITS REPORT TO THE NAC PRIOR TO THE 5 APRIL BRIEFING BECAUSE IT BARELY HAD SUFFICIENT TIME LEFT TO DEVELOP THE REPORT. ON THE CONTENT OF THE REPORT, THE UK REP STATED THAT IT SHOULD BEGIN WITH AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AS THE AD
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GOC GROUP MEMBERS NOW SEE IT. CERTAINLY IT SHOULD ALSO HAVE A SECTION WHICH DEALS WITH THE IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES. FURTHER, IT SHOULD DRAW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE GUIDANCE GROUP PROVIDED IN CM (73) 83 (FINAL) IS INCOMPLETE. HOWEVER, HE WAS DOUBTFUL ABOUT THE WISOM OF GOING BEYOND WHAT HE HAD JUST OUTLINED. THOUGH THE NETHERLANDS REP HAD RIGTFULLY POINTED OUT SEVERAL AREAS IN WHICH GUIDANCE WAS NEEDED, HE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO JOIN IN A RECOMMENDATION ON, OR A REQUEST FOR, GUIDANCE BECASUE THE VIEWS OF THE UK WERE NOT CLEAR IN SEVERAL AREAS CONNECTED WITH MBFR. FURTHERMORE, IF THE AD HOC GROUP WERE TO ADDRESS ONE OR TWO AREAS IN WHICH IT COULD SHOW FLEXIBILITY TO THE EAST, IT MIGHT BE MAKING A MISTAKE BY ABSTRACTING THOSE ONE OR TWO AREAS FROM A WHOLE RANGE OF AREAS IN WHICH FLEXIBILITY MIGHT BE SHOWN. FURTHERMORE, HE BELIEVED IT PROPER THAT THE QUESTION OF WESTERN FLEXIBILITY SHOULD BE RAISED IN NATIONAL CAPITOLS DURING THE EASTER RECESS, FOR EXAMPLE, ON THE QUESTION OF THE FORCE FREEZE IN-BETWEEN NEGOTIATING PHASES.

14. THE U REP SAID HE AGREED WITH THE NETHERLANDS REP'S PROPOSAL THAT THE AHG REPORT MAKE MENTION OF THE DEMANDS OF THE OTHER SIDE TO DATE. WHERE THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT, THEN EACH NATIONAL DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK THE VIEWS OF ITS OWN GOVERNMENT DURING THE EASTER RECESS.

15. THE NETHERLANDS REP POINTED OUT THAT ONE DELICATE PROBLEM AREA HAD NOT BEEN RAISED IN THE DISCUSSION FOCUSSING ON THE 5 APRIL REPORT TO THE NAC. THIS WAS THE QUESTION OF PROCEDURES INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE WONDERED IF SOMETHING COULD BE SAID IN THAT REPORT ON THIS MATTER.

16. THE UK REP SUMMARIZED THE DISCUSSION BY STATING THAT THE GROUP HAD AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING:
A. IT SHOULD NOT SEND TO BRUSSELS ITS REPORT FOR THE 5 APRIL NAC MEETING PRIOR TO THAT MEETING.

B. THE REPORT WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS,

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THE FIRST BEING A REVIEW OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND THE SECOND AN IDENTIFICATION OF THE ISSUES WITH A STATEMENT OF HOW THE WEST MIGHT MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE EAST IN CERTAIN LIMITED AREAS, IF ANY.

17. THE ITALIAN REP AGREED WITH THE UK REP, BUT STATED THAT THE AHG SHOULD NOT BURDEN THE HAC BY MAKING THE NAC THE FORUM FOR DECISIONS WHICH SHOULD BE TAKEN IN VIENNA. THUS, HE BELIEVED THE AHG MEMBERS SHOULD IN FACT ASSIGN PRIORITIES TO THE ISSUES WHICH THEY RAISED IN THEIR REPORT.

18. IN THE DISCUSSION OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AHG REPORT TO THE NAC, THE GROUP DECIDED THAT THE USDEL WOULD PREPARE FIRST DRAFT OF THE FIRST PART OF THE REPORT, AND THE UK DEL WOULD PREPARE FIRST DRAFT OF THE SECOND PART.

DRAFT OUTLINE FOR 28 MARCH PLENARY STATEMENT

19. AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN REQUESTED THAT THE GROUP NOW TURN TO CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT OUTLINE FOR THE NEXT PLENARY STATEMENT ON STABILIZING MEASURES. HE ASKED THAT THE ITALIAN DEPREP WHO HAD ACTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DRAFTING GROUP REPORT ON THE DRAFT OUTLINE. THE ITALIAN DEPREP STATED THAT THE DRAFTING GROUP NEEDED FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. 1) SHOULD A SPEARATE SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED STABILIZING MEASURES BE GIVEN TO THE EAST? THE DRAFTING GROUP CHAIRMAN REPORTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONFLICTING VIEWS WITHIN THE DRAFTING GROUP ON THIS ISSUE DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE PROPOSED DRAFT SUMMARY CONTAINED OTHER THAN LANGUAGE DIRECTLY EXTRACTED FROM PREVIOUS PLENARY STATEMENTS. 2) WHAT SHOULD BE THE STATUS OF ANY PAPER ON STABILIZING MEASURES GIVEN TO THE EAST? 3) WHAT SHOULD BE THE TIMING ON TABLING SUCH A PAPER WITH THE EAST? THIS LAST QUESTION WAS RELEVANT IN THE CONTEXT OF PRECLUDING PROCEDURAL OBJECTIONS FROM THE EAST AGAINST STABILIZING MEASURES AT THE OUTSET OF THE INFORMAL SESSION. 4) LASTLY, SHOULD LANGUAGE FROM THE PREVIOUS PLENARY USED IN THE DRAFT SUMMARY OF THE STABILIZING MEASURES BE RETAINED INTACT OR CLARIFIED TO ANY DEGREE?

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THE AD HOC GROUP CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE AD HOC GROUP ADDRESS THESE DRAFTING GROUP QUESTIONS FIRST.

A. US REP STATED THAT THE EAST NEEDED A CONCISE, SUCCINCT SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED STABILIZING MEASURES IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THEIR EVALUATION OF THE MEASURES. HE STATED THAT HE BELIEVED THAT ALL OF THE QUESTIONS CITED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE AHG DRAFTING GROUP EXCEPT THE LAST COULD BE RESOLVED BY THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTION. THE US REP RECOMMENDED THAT THE TEXT OF THE SUMMARY PAPER BE INSERTED INTACT INTO THE PLENARY STATEMENT AND THAT THE PLENARY STATEMENT BE STRUCTURED SO THAT THE SUMMARY PAPER COULD BE WITHDRAWN AND USED INDEPENDENTLY BY THE EAST IF DESIRED. ALL THE REPS OF THE AHG SUPPORTED THIS SUGGESTION. THE AHG CHAIRMAN THEN RECOMMENDED THAT THE GROUP FOCUS ON THE DETAILS OF THE SUMMARY PAPER ON STABILIZING MEASURES. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE LANGUAGE IN THE SUMMARY PAPER ON STABILIZING MEASURES NOT BE CONDENSED TO THE EXTENT THAT THE PRECISE WORDING OF PREVIOUS PLENARY STATEMENTS WOULD BE LOST. RATHER, THE SUMMARY PAPER SHOULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A MORE SCHEMIC FORMAT RETAINING PLENARY LANGUAGE INsofar AS POSSIBLE. THE AHG SUPPORTED THIS APPROACH.

B. THE AHG CHAIRMAN NOW REQUESTED THAT THE MEMBERS TURN TO THE DRAFT OUTLINE FOR THE PLENARY PRESENTATION ON STABILIZING MEASURES. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE PLENARY PRESENTATION SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT THE PROPOSED STABILIZING MASURES ARE LINKED ONLY TO PHASE I OF THE ALLIED

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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; FROM US REP MBFR

REDUCTION PROPOSAL. THE AHG SUPPORTED THIS RECOMMENDATION. THE ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) STATED THAT THE PLENARY TEXT SHOULD ALSO MAKE IT CLEAR TO THE EAST THAT THESE PROPOSED STABILIZING MEASURES ARE PART OF THE LARGER CATEGORY OF ASSOCIATED MEASURES, INCLUDING VERIFICATION AND NON-CIRCUMVENTION, ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE WEST. THE AHG SUPPORTED THIS ADDITION TO THE TEXT. THE FRG REP (BEHREND) NOTED THAT THE DRAFT OUTLINE CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO THE ARGUMENT THAT STABILIZING MEASURES PROVIDE SOME PROTECTION AGAINST SURPRISE ATTACK. HE NOTED THAT THE WEST HAD MADE THIS ARGUMENT IN THE PAST AND FOR CONSISTENCY SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE THE ARGUMENT AGAIN IN THIS PLENARY STATEMENT. THE US REP STRESSED THAT THE INTENT OF THIS PLENARY STATEMENT WAS TO EMPHASIZE THE DIRECT ASSOCIATION OF THESE STABILIZING MEASURES WITH REDUCTIONS, AVOIDING REPETITION OF PREVIOUS MORE THEORETICAL ARGUMENTATION.

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THE FRG REP NOTED THAT THIS PLENARY STATEMENT IN ESSENCE SUMMARIZED PREVIOUS STATEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT, SO THAT INCLUSION OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK ARGUMENT WAS PERTINENT. THE BELGIAN DEP REP (WILLOT) SUGGESTED A CHANGE TO THE OUTLINE WHICH INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK ARGUMENTATION. ALL APPROVED. THE GREEK REP (DOUNTAS) STATED THAT THIS PLENARY STATEMENT SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE MENTION OF THE FACT THAT THE WEST COULD IN THE FUTURE TABLE ADDITIONAL STABILIZING MEASURES. THE GROUP APPROVED THIS ADDITION.

SECOND ROUND OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS

20. THE AHG CHAIRMAN ASKED THE GROUP WHAT THE NEXT STEP SHOULD BE REGARDING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EAST. HE NOTED THAT THE SOVIET REPS HAD PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED A SECOND ROUND OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, PRIOR TO THE EASTER RECESS. HE NOTED THAT THE REPS OF THE AHG WOULD HAVE TO KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO THE EAST ON THIS SUBJECT AT THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION. THE FRG REP NOTED THAT HE HAD ALSO BEEN ASKED PRIVATELY BY SOV REPS WHAT THE WEST ENVISAGED FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF INFORMAL SESSIONS. THE AHG CHAIRMAN STATED THAT HE FELT THE

INFORMAL SESSIONS SHOULD BE CONTINUED UP TO THE EASTER RECESS. HE FURTHER STATED THAT HE FELT TWO SESSIONS IN THE SECOND ROUND WERE SUFFICIENT, RECOMMENDING ONE SESSION FOR 1 APRIL AND ONE SESSION ON 8 APRIL.

A. THE NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) STATED THAT HE FELT THAT THE WEST MUST CONTINUE TO PROBE THE EAST INFORMALLY, EVEN THOUGH A BREAK-THROUGH IN NEGOTIATIONS HAD NOT YET OCCURRED. HE RECOMMENDED THAT JUDGEMENT AS TO WHAT TO DO ABOUT CONTINUING THE INFORMAL SESSIONS BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER THE EASTER RECESS. EVEN AT THAT POINT, IT WAS HIS PRESENT VIEW THAT THE INFORMAL SESSIONS SHOULD BE CONTINUED UNTIL A BREAK-THROUGH IN NEGOTIATIONS OCCURRED. THE US REP SUPPORTED THE CONCEPT OF HAVING TWO SESSIONS WITH THE EAST IN THE SECOND ROUND OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO EASTER RECESS. ALL MEMBERS OF THE AHG SUPPORTED THE RECOMMENDATION FOR TWO SESSIONS IN THE SECOND ROUND OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. THE BELGIAN DEP REP RECOMMENDED THAT THE REPS OF THE AHG IN THE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS SHOULD PLAN TO SUGGEST TWO SESSIONS PRIOR TO THE EASTER RECESS, BUT DEFER THIS PROPOSAL SHOULD THE SOVIETS MAKE
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ANY NEW OFFERS RELATIVE TO ANY ASPECT OF THE ALLIANCE REDUCTION PROPOSAL, AND SEEK FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE AHG. ALL AGREED.

B. THE AHG THEN TURNED TO CONSIDERATION OF TALKING POINTS FOR THE NEXT INFORMAL SESSION WITH THE EAST. THE TURKISH DEP REP (UNAN) SUGGESTED THAT PHRASEOLOGY IN THE TALKING POINTS BE MODIFIED SOMEWHAT TO DISCUSS THE CONFRONTATION IN EUROPE RATHER THAN FOCUSING ONLY ON CENTRAL EUROPE. THE GROUP AGREED. THE FRG REP RECOMMENDED THAT THE TALKING POINTS NOT FOCUS ON SUPPOSED SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN REDUCTIONS OF US/SOVIET FORCES AND REDUCTIONS OF ALLIES ON EACH SIDE. HE NOTED THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARILY EASIER OR MORE DIFFICULT TO REDUCE US/SOVIET VICE ALLIED FORCES. THE BELGIAN AND ITALIAN REPS SUPPORTED THE FRG ON THIS POINT. THE US DEP REP ACCEPTED THIS CHANGE BUT NOTED THAT THE WEST REALLY DID NOT HAVE AN OBJECTIVE, FACTUAL ARGUMENT AGAINST THE EAST'S SYMBOLIC REDUCTION PROPOSAL WITH THE DELETION OF THIS ARGUMENTATION.

C. THE UK REP RECOMMENDED THAT THE TEXT OF THE TALKING POINTS BE MODIFIED TO REFLECT THAT IT WAS NOT REALISTIC TO TREAT THE UK DIFFERENTLY FROM THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BECAUSE SUCH TREATMENT OF UK FORCES DID NOT CORRESPOND TO POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN WESTERN EUROPE. THE CANADIAN DEP REP (MORGAN) ALSO STATED THAT CANADA WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT AGREE TO BE TREATED SEPARATELY FROM THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AHG SUPPORTED CHANGES TO THE TALKING POINTS TO REFLECT THE UK AND CANADIAN CONCERNS ON THIS MATTER. THE REMAINDER OF THE TEXT OF THE

TALKING POINTS WAS APPROVED BY THE AHG.

D. THE AHG CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
AHG WOULD BE ON TUESDAY, 26 MARCH. TRINKA

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Message Attributes

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